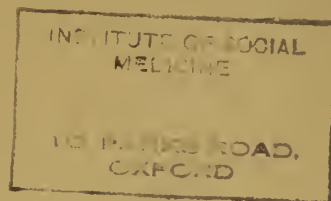




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# NEWPORT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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Medical Inspection of School Children.

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THIRTY-THIRD



# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

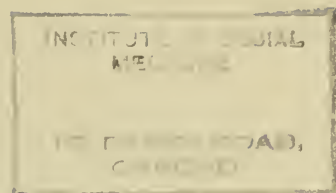
YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 1940

BY

H. W. CATTO, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.





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H. W. CATTO, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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## MEDICAL STAFF.

#### WHOLE TIME :

School Medical Officer—H. W. Catto, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers—Irene T. J. Ruxton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

D. E. Lawrence, B.A., B.Sc. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

R. Roderick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

School Dentists—C. I. T. Morgan, L.D.S., Mary E. Thomas, L.D.S.

School Nurses—E. M. Arr (retired 28/1/40), F. O. S. Davies, G. M. Hoddinott,

C. M. Boucher, N. Sheahan, B. A. Williams, M. Fletcher, N. Wright.

Dental Attendant—Marion A. Forster.

Clerks—T. D. Trowbridge, A. G. Reece, Winifred S. Weare, E. Joycelynn Jones.

J. W. Essery (temporarily transferred to Staff of Director of Education).

N. F. Newsway (temporary appointment).

#### PART TIME :

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon—D. B. Sutton, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.L.O.

Ophthalmic Surgeon—F. W. Robertson, M.A., M.D., D.O.M.S.

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## APPENDIX A.

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Table I.—Return of Medical Inspections	...	...	...	...
Table II.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected in the Routine Age Groups	...	...	...	...
Tables III. & IV.—Returns of Defects Treated	...	...	...	...
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## APPENDIX B.

### SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Table I.—Return of Medical Inspections	...	...	...	...
Table II.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected in the Routine Age Groups	...	...	...	...
Tables III. & IV.—Returns of Defects Treated	...	...	...	...

## APPENDIX C.

Heights and Weights of School Children	...	...	...	...
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## ANNUAL REPORT.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the thirty-third Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for the year ended December 31st, 1940.

### Staff.

Particulars of the Staff are given on Page 2.

There has been no change in the Staff brought about by the War, except that owing to the impossibility of sufficiently protecting the School Clinic, the Tonsils and Adenoids Operations are now performed by Mr. Sutton, the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, at Woolston House, and the appointment of a Nurse in place of Nurse Arr, who retired on 28th January, 1940, was deferred until such time as the operations are resumed at the School Clinic.

## THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

### Medical Inspection.

The arrangements for carrying out Medical Inspection at the Schools have been described in previous reports.

The following groups of elementary school children were examined during the year :—

A. Routine Medical Inspection of ages prescribed by the Code. The examinations are carried out at the schools to which the children belong.

Entrants. Those who have recently joined school.

Second age group. Those who have reached the age of eight to nine years.

Third age group. Those who have reached the age of twelve years.

B. Other Inspections.

Children, other than those under A, examined by the Medical Officers at the School or Clinic.

### Special Inspections.

Children selected by the Medical Officer during a visit to the schools, or referred to him at the School or Clinic by Teachers, School Nurses, Attendance Officers, Parents, or otherwise.

### Re-inspections.

Any of the above children who are re-examined by the Medical Officer either at the School or at the School Clinic.

The number of the above examined are :—

#### A. Routine Medical Inspections—

Entrants	...	...	1020
Second age group	...	...	1290
Third age group	...	...	1256
		—	3566

#### B. Other Inspections—

Special Inspections	...	...	13283
Re-inspections	...	...	14243

As compared with 1939 the number of examinations of Entrants has decreased by 558, that of second age group has decreased by 18, whilst the third age group has increased by 45, the special inspections increased by 54, and the re-inspections increased by 610.



## Findings of Medical Inspection.

### Malnutrition.

Of the 3,566 children examined at the routine inspections, 662 were found to be suffering from slightly subnormal nutrition; 11 cases of bad nutrition were also recorded.

The following is a report of Dr. Ruxton on Nutrition Survey of children receiving Free Meals, or who should have taken advantage of the Free Meals but did not do so, during 1940:—

The report for the year 1940 is not so complete as could be desired, chiefly for the following reasons:—

(1) After it had been decided to carry out the nutrition surveys in accordance with the Board of Education's Circular 1443, some time elapsed while the necessary information was collated and cards prepared. This meant that the children were not inspected on the first routine visit of the Doctors to the schools.

(2) Difficulty was experienced owing to the schools working on a part-time basis — many of the children were not in attendance when the Doctors were carrying out routine inspections. It was found impossible to make special visits to every school to see the children. This would have meant doubling the number of visits. 18 special visits were made, however, to 9 schools for re-examination purposes.

In many cases children were examined once only for the following reasons:—

- (1) Attending Open Air Classes.
- (2) Absent when Doctors visited schools.
- (3) Left school before second visit of Doctors.
- (4) Name omitted from list of children entitled to Free Meals till just prior to the last visit.

994 examinations and re-examinations were carried out. This figure includes 530 children who are receiving free meals.

Many names have been removed from the list of those entitled to receive free meals in the course of the year, and I have classified these separately.

The undermentioned examinations and remarks are in respect of **children who ceased to be entitled to free meals during 1940**, on account of improved financial positions:—

113	children	examined	once	—	56	nutrition	fair;
					57	nutrition	subnormal;
61	„	„	twice	—	47	gained	weight;
					7	showed	no gain;
					7	lost	weight.

The children in the latter figures of each of the above groups, i.e., the undernourished and those who have not gained weight, will, if still in school, be followed up during 1941, and recommended for further attendance at the Dining Centres if deemed necessary.

The average gain in weight was  $1\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. in 2 months, but individual improvement varied greatly as children between the ages of 5 and 14 were dealt with.

The following particulars relate to **children who are still in receipt of Free Meals**:—

110	children	examined	once;
180	„	„	twice;
66	„	„	three times.

Of these 356 children, 14 were found to have lost weight, and 1 showed no change. The average gain was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. in 5 months.



### **Non-attendance at Dining Centres.**

The lists of names submitted by the Director of Education included 91 cases who were entitled to Free Meals. These children were examined and it was found that they were not attending the Dining Centres. Several reasons were given for their non-attendance, such as:—

- (1) Mother did not wish child to go to Dining Centre.
- (2) The child did not wish to go.
- (3) The child does not like cooked dinners.
- (4) In some cases the child had lost the dinner disc and parents have not taken the trouble to apply for a new one, despite the fact that other members of the family are attending for their meals.

The majority of these cases have been reported to the Director of Education and Head Teachers to make enquiries, but unfortunately the continued lack of interest on the part of the parents is prejudicial to the obtaining of satisfactory results in this direction.

### **Two facts stand out from the findings recorded at the re-examinations:—**

- (1) The average increase in weight of the children who have ceased attendance at the Canteens is higher than the average yearly gain, but the children who are still in receipt of free meals show an even higher gain.

The average increase in weight per annum of children attending elementary schools is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. The increase in weight of the children who attended the Dining Centres for part of the year only proved to be  $1\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. in two months (i.e.,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. for a year), a relatively high figure.

In the children who are still in receipt of free meals, however, the gain was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. in 5 months (i.e.,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. for a year).

- (2) The children who continue to receive free meals and showed no gain in weight (15 out of 356) constituted a percentage of 4.2; while those children who ceased to attend Dining Centres during the year (14 out of 61) constituted a percentage of 23, a very much higher figure.

Some of the excess in the latter figure can be explained on the ground of the smaller number examined. Nevertheless, when a fairly wide margin is allowed for this, the results surely prove conclusively the immense benefit derived from the daily provision of a substantial mid-day meal to children of subnormal nutrition.

In conclusion it is recommended that better facilities be provided at all schools so that children can be undressed and their true weight recorded, particularly in the case of the Open Air Classes, which consist of only one room, where children cannot be undressed and examined. Furthermore, it should be made possible for weighing scales to be provided at those schools when the children are in session.

IRENE T. J. RUXTON.

### **Uncleanliness.**

Regular visits were paid to all the Elementary Schools during the year, the average number being four per School.

43,009 examinations of boys and girls were made, and 668 children were found to be unclean, of whom 76 had vermin and 592 nits only.

Newport is not an official evacuation area and the problems of scabies and pediculosis have not been so acute possibly as in other areas. Nevertheless, a marked increase in scabies is noted during the year as compared with 1939, e.g., 178, as compared with 101 for 1939.

No doubt conditions of overcrowding due to abnormal movements of the population, billeting of the members of His Majesty's Forces, and other similar conditions encourage the spread of such infections.

#### **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.**

The total number of minor ailments and diseases of the skin dealt with during the year was 3,714, as compared with 3,801 for 1939. These were composed of the following:—Minor Ailments, 2,409; Ringworm of Scalp, 2; Ringworm of Body, 29; Scabies, 176; Impetigo, 440; Other Skin Diseases, 658.

#### **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

There were 1,472 cases of Defective Vision, 240 of whom had squint, a decrease on 1939, when the figures were 1,578 of whom 274 had squint. 312 of the total were first found during the Routine examinations at the schools. The remainder were cases referred to the Clinic or followed up from previous years.

There were 431 cases of external eye disease as compared with 473 for the previous year. These were made up as follows:—Blepharitis, 107; Conjunctivitis, 156; Keratitis, 3; Corneal Opacities, 1; Other Eye Conditions, 164.

#### **Nose and Throat Defects.**

The total number of defects of Nose and Throat dealt with was 2,746. There were 17 cases of Chronic Tonsillitis only, 4 of Adenoids only, 1,207 of Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids, and 1,518 other conditions.

#### **Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

The total number of cases of ear disease and defective hearing dealt with was 572 as compared with 700 for 1939. There were 54 cases of defective hearing, 218 of Otitis Media, and 300 other conditions.

#### **Dental Defects.**

Seven Elementary Schools were visited during the year by the Dentists for inspection purposes.

3,806 routine cases and 285 special were examined; 3,966 of these were found to require treatment.

10 half-days were devoted to inspection and 1,009 half-days to treatment.

6,620 attendances were made by the children.

#### **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

There were 648 cases of Orthopaedic and Postural Defects dealt with during the year.

The following is the list of children dealt with at the Orthopaedic Clinic which is run in conjunction with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme:—

		Elementary.			Secondary.		
		B.	G.	Total.	B.	G.	Total.
Infantile Paralysis	...	7	5	12	1	1	2
Infantile Hemiplegia	...	7	4	11	—	—	—
Diplegia	...	3	1	4	—	—	—
Lateral Curvature	...	18	27	45	2	13	15
Perthe's Disease	...	3	—	3	—	—	—
Torticollis	...	2	1	3	—	—	—
Spina Bifida	...	1	1	2	—	—	—
Epiphysitis of Hip	...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Rickets (Bow Legs)	...	1	1	2	2	—	2
Flat Feet	...	56	96	152	15	23	38
Inversion of Feet	...	10	5	15	—	—	—
Pes Cavus	...	11	10	21	—	1	1
Talipes ...	...	6	7	13	—	—	—
Hallux Valgus	...	—	2	2	1	6	7
Hammer Toe	...	2	6	8	—	1	1
Knock Knees	...	19	24	43	1	—	1
Amyotonia Congenita	...	—	—	—	—	1	1
Severed Tibialis Postieus	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Kollers Disease	...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Coxa Vara	...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Dislocation of Hip	...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Eversion of Feet	...	1	2	3	1	—	1
Osteochondritis	...	—	1	1	1	—	1
Contraction of Tendo. Achilles	...	1	1	2	—	—	—
Chondromata	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cyst of Right Tibia	...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Apophysitis of Heels	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Arthritis	...	1	3	4	—	—	—
Coccydynia	...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Schlatter's Disease	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
T.B. Hip	...	1	—	1	—	—	—
Fragillitis Ossium	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sclerosis of Saero Iliac Joint	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Hallux Rigidus	...	—	—	—	—	1	1
Meningocele	...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other Conditions	...	23	22	45	4	6	10
		176	232	408	28	53	81

1,606 attendances were made by these children at the Orthopaedic Clinic.

I wish here to thank Dr. Laird for the information supplied and to express my appreciation of her willingness at any time to be of assistance to the School Medical Service.

#### Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

During the medical inspection 252 cases of heart conditions were found, 85 being classified as Organic and 167 as Functional. There were also 162 cases of Rheumatism encountered during the year.

### **Tuberculosis.**

98 cases of Tuberculosis of all kinds were dealt with during the year. The varieties were Pulmonary: Definite 7, Suspected 43; Non-Pulmonary: Glands 31, Bones and Joints 9; Other forms, 8.

### **Other Defects and Diseases.**

2,219 cases were dealt with during the year. They comprised the following:— Diseases of the Alimentary tract such as Stomatitis, Gastritis, Enteritis, Appendicitis, etc.; Diseases of the Genito-Urinary Organs, such as Nephritis, Cystitis, Enuresis, etc.; Infectious Diseases, Major Injuries, Rheumatism, etc.

### **Following Up.**

The number of visits to homes for "following up" purposes was 2,337 for Elementary school children, and 319 for Secondary and Technical.

### **Arrangements for Treatment.**

Special arrangements for treatment are in operation and the scale of treatment charges has been described in previous reports.

The contributions made by parents for the year amounted to £772 3s. 0d., of which £59 14s. 8d. was in receipt of Secondary School children.

### **Malnutrition.**

See paragraph dealing with Open Air Classes.

### **Uncleanliness.**

There is a cleansing Station at the Clinic and this was utilised in 23 cases. It was not necessary to take legal proceedings in this connexion during the year under review.

It was found possible to obtain the desired results in the remainder of the cases from treatment at home.

### **Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.**

The total number of minor ailments and diseases of the skin treated during the year was 3,713 of whom 3,451 received treatment at the Clinic and 262 elsewhere. These are made up as follows:—

	Treated Clinic.	Treated elsewhere.
Minor Ailments	2240	168
Ringworm of Scalp	1	1
Ringworm of Body	29	—
Scabies	171	5
Impetigo	415	25
Other Skin Diseases	595	63

The total attendances made for treatment by children from Elementary and Secondary Schools was 21,926.

### **Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.**

Mr. F. W. Robertson, the Ophthalmic Surgeon, specially appointed by the Education Committee for this work in 1932, held 110 sessions during the year, and he reports as follows:—

"During the year 1,251 cases were examined for defective vision, making an average of 11.37. In addition 55 special cases were examined.



The following are the details of those cases with defective vision:—

	No. of Cases.	Squint.	Myopia.	Myopic Astig- matism.	Hyper- metropia.	Hyper- metropic Astig- matism.	Mixed Astig- matism.	Obser- vation.	Abnor- mality
Elementary	971	146	53	123	79	316	62	138	54
Secondary	239	6	45	91	8	53	14	18	4
M. & C.W. Dept.	39	28	—	—	1	—	—	5	5
Occupation Centre	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	1251	181	98	214	88	369	76	161	64
		14.4%		24.9%		36.5%	6.0%	12.8%	5.1%

It will be observed that 181 cases of Squint were dealt with. As this is one of the conditions where great benefit results from early treatment and advice, I give the following details of this group:—

Divergent	...	...	3
Alternating	...	...	24
Convergent	...	...	154

In 24 cases one eye was amblyopic.

During the year I operated on 23 children at the Royal Gwent Hospital. These were classified as follows:—Squint, 16; Congenital Cataracts, 3; Ptosis, 1; Perforating Injury, 3.

There are still a few cases on my waiting list.

There were 312 cases of myopia and myopic astigmatism.

- 2 had a total error of over 10 dioptries.
- 42 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 115 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 153 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

As far as possible all myopes are re-examined at less than 12 monthly intervals, and special attention paid to those cases which show a definite tendency to increase. Cases with over 10 dioptries of myopia and progressing are advised re special training.

There were 457 cases of hypermetropia and hypermetropic astigmatism.

- 55 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 199 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 203 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

There were 76 cases of mixed astigmatism.

- 20 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 48 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 8 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

The 64 special cases were found to be suffering from some pathological or congenital defect. The following are the details:—

Corneal Leucomata	...	21	Traumatic Ptosis	...	1
Congenital Nystagmus	...	2	Optic Atrophy	...	3
Aphakia and Congenital			Paralytic Squint	...	1
Nystagmus	...	1	Partial Albinism	...	4
Congenital Coloboma of Disc	...	1	Choroiditis	...	2
Epicanthus	...	2	Spasm of Accommodation	...	3
Chorioretinitis	...	1	Congenital Cataract	...	7
Hyperphoria	...	1	Congenital Cataract and		
Aphakia	...	1	R.C.C.S.	...	1
Congenital Ptosis	...	5	Retrolbulbar Neuritis	...	3
T.B. Keratitis and Leucomata	...	1	Traumatic Ectropion	...	1
Paralysis both External Recti			Papilloedema (Cerebral Tumour)	...	1
Muscles	...	1			

There were a further 55 special cases. Some of these were for the purpose of checking up their lenses, but the majority were eye inflammations and injuries referred by the School Medical Officers. Several of these cases I had to refer to my clinic at the Royal Gwent Hospital for special treatment or operation."

389 cases of external eye disease were treated at the Clinic and 42 elsewhere.

### Nose and Throat Defects.

748 cases were operated on during the year for Tonsils and Adenoids. The sources from which they came were as follows:—

		Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Elementary Schools	...	363	300	663
Secondary Schools	...	6	14	20
Maternity and Child Welfare Department		34	31	65

The operations were performed at Wooloston House by Mr. Sutton, the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

Of the Maternity and Child Welfare cases, 2 were between the ages of 1 and 2, 11 between 2 and 3, 18 between 3 and 4, and 34 between 4 and 5.

At the end of the year 1940, the waiting list for operation for the removal of Tonsils and Adenoids was as follows:—

	M. & C.W. Dept.	School.
Boys	12	123
Girls	14	111
Total	26	234

The total number of operations performed at the Clinic since the inception of the scheme in 1921, is 6,087, which together with the 748 mentioned above performed at Wooloston House, makes a total of 6,835.

### Ear Diseases and Defective Hearing.

527 cases of ear disease and defective hearing were treated at the Clinic and 45 elsewhere.

### Aural Clinic.

This Aural Clinic is held for the purpose of treating chronic ear conditions with a view to the prevention of deafness, and 22 sessions were held during the year under review.

188 children were examined and the sources from which they came were as follows:—

Elementry Schools	...	...	170
Secondary Schools	...	...	13
Maternity & Child Welfare Dept.	...		5
Total	...		188

The total number of attendances made at the Clinic by these children was 420.



The following gives details of the cases dealt with:—

	No.	Cured	Still under treatment	Discontinued treatment	No Treatment required at present	Recommended T. & A. Op.	Recommended for Special School
Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media	103	41	42	10	—	10	—
Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media with Chronic Hypertrophic Rhinitis	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Suppurative Otitis Media	23	15	4	3	—	1	—
Chronic Catarrhal Otitis Media	30	15	8	1	—	6	—
Acute Catarrhal Otitis Media	6	5	1	—	—	—	—
Mastoiditis	... 1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Aural Polypus	... 1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deafness	... 3	1	—	—	—	—	2
Other Conditions	... 10	7	2	1	—	—	—
Observation	... 10	—	—	—	10	—	—
	188	84	59	15	10	18	2

Arrangements are in existence with the Public Assistance Committee for operative treatment, when necessary, to be carried out at their Institution at 131 Stow Hill.

During the year three children were operated on, one for Double Antrostomy, one for Mastoid, and one for Proof Puncture of Antra and Aural Polypus.

#### Dental Defects.

2,591 Elementary school children were treated at the Clinic during the year.

385 teeth were filled, 329 being permanent teeth and 56 temporary teeth.

6,753 teeth were extracted, 1,744 permanent, 5,009 temporary.

767 nitrous oxide gas administrations were given, and most of the other extractions were done under local anaesthetics.

231 other operations were performed.

#### Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

During the year 8 elementary school children received operative treatment at the Prince of Wales' Orthopaedic Hospital, Cardiff, and 168 children were given massage or fitted with appliances, etc., at the Orthopaedic Clinic of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department. 1 child was treated privately.

1,735 attendances were made by the children at the Orthopaedic Clinic for massage and exercises.

#### Heart Diseases and Rheumatism.

This type of case is referred to the private practitioner for appropriate treatment.

#### Tuberculosis.

All cases of Tuberculosis are dealt with by the local Tuberculosis Officer, to whom we refer cases, and who notifies us of cases reaching him from other sources.

He also examines other members of the family to which children found to be Tuberculous belong. He is responsible for domiciliary treatment and arranges for institutional treatment as required.

The Tuberculosis scheme in Newport, like the rest of Wales, is administered by the Welsh National Memorial Association.

#### Other Defects and Diseases.

Most of these conditions are found to be of such a nature as to be best treated by the patients' own Doctors.

Major injuries, which come under this group, such as fractures, etc., are referred to the Royal Gwent Hospital.

#### Artificial Light.

This form of treatment has been carried out as in past years at the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, and I have to thank Dr. Daniel for the information from which the following table has been completed.

Conditions for which treated.	No. treated.	Average period of treatment.	Maximum period of Treatment.	Minimum period of Treatment.	Average number of Doses.	Maximum number of Doses.	Minimum number of Doses.	Average strength of Dose.	Maximum strength of Dose.	Minimum Strength of Dose.
Debility and Nervous Debility ...	14	6 wks.	18½ wks.	½ wk.	12	37	1	5.4 mins.	12 mins.	1 min.
Chronic Bronchitis, Bronchial Asthma ...	4	4½ wks.	12 wks.	2 wks.	9	24	4	7.4 „	10 „	1 „
Cervical Adenitis (T.B. & Non T.B.) ...	17	11½ wks.	30½ wks.	½ wk.	23	61	1	7.3 „	12 „	1 „
Rheumatism ...	3	11½ wks.	12 wks.	10 wks.	23	24	20	6.7 „	11 „	1 „
Other Conditions	5	4 wks.	7½ wks.	3½ wks.	8	15	7	8.1 „	10 „	1 „
Total ...	43	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The number of children treated during the year was 43, and 860 attendances were made. The cases were treated by Mercury Vapour and Carbon Arc Lamps.

Analysis of the case records reveal the following facts:—

	Improvement in General Health.			
	No. of Cases.	Very much improved.	Improved.	No change.. Not Stated.
Debility & Nervous Debility ...	14	4	6	4
Chronic Bronchitis, Bronchial Asthma ...	4	—	1	3
Cervical Adenitis ... (T.B. & Non T.B.)	17	6	10	1
Rheumatism ...	3	1	2	—
Other conditions ...	5	1	3	1
	43	12	22	9

The above are the opinions of the Medical Officer. The Parents' opinions differed very little from them.

### Infectious Diseases.

The total number of cases of infectious disease occurring amongst school children was 2,298, made up as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	82
Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	116
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	34
Measles and German Measles	...	...	1487
Chicken Pox	...	...	438
Mumps	...	...	133
Whooping Cough	...	...	7
			<hr/>
			2298
			<hr/>

### Open Air Education.

Opportunities for open air education are utilised as far as possible. Classes are taken in the playgrounds of the Schools for physical exercises and during the Summer for ordinary teaching. School parties are taken to the Parks and Recreation Grounds for nature study and games.

There are no Open Air Schools.

### Open Air Classes in the Parks.

These were held for the twenty-first year in succession. Classes were held in Belle Vue Park and St. Julian's Recreation Ground. These classes commenced on 10th June and finished on 20th September, and remained open during August. A class was also started on 10th June at Somerton Playing Fields, but finished on 28th June in view of the inadequate provision of shelter against air raids.

At Belle Vue Park 23 boys and 32 girls attended.

At St. Julian's Recreation Ground 18 boys and 21 girls attended.

At Somerton Playing Fields 15 boys and 24 girls attended.

The cost per meal at all classes was 1/0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

### Physical Training.

The following are abridged reports on Physical Training for the year 1940, by Miss Vera D. Bailey and Mr. H. A. Oberholzer:—

Physical Training has been adversely affected by war conditions. From July Elementary Schools, with the exception of Brynglas Central School, have been working on a longer single session each day with an additional session on Saturday morning. This has caused some reduction in the time devoted to Physical Training. Owing to war risks organised games, with the exception of three schools which have their own playing fields, have had to be cut out. In spite of these difficulties, the teachers have taken Physical Training most conscientiously in the endeavour to maintain the standard.

Swimming, for the first time, has been taken throughout the year, and in spite of reduced attendances due to the possibility of "Alerts," the results in Certificates and Royal Life Saving Certificates were very good. The proficiency awards were 1,275, including 19 Medallions of Merit. 129 Life Saving awards were won, including 11 Bronze Medallions.

The two Open Air Classes in the Parks were visited and demonstration lessons were given. Owing to war conditions, it was not possible to continue the Evening Play Centres.

One "Keep Fit" Class was continued throughout the year and this was well attended.

VERA D. BAILEY.

During the year war conditions necessitated a considerable restriction of Physical Training activities, but every effort was made to maintain physical efficiency. Lessons were taken whenever possible and the general standard of work was in every way satisfactory.

The danger of exposing children to air raids while travelling to and from the playing fields compelled us to discontinue organised games in the majority of the schools. Two schools fortunate in having their own playing fields adjoining the school were able to carry on. All athletic meetings have been cancelled for the duration of the war.

The Education Committee's scheme for winter as well as summer swimming was fully justified, and the figures show an all-round increase in efficiency. The total Swimming awards—1,587—is 677 more than those recorded in 1939. 127 more boys learnt to swim this year than in 1938, and 187 more than in 1939.

In spite of difficulties good results were obtained in Life Saving. The total awards were: Elementary Schools, 151; Technical College, 54; High School, 38; Secondary School, 97. These included 73 Bronze Medallions, 10 Bars to Medallions, 4 First Class and 1 Second Class Instructors' Certificates, and 1 Award of Merit. The Secondary School are to be congratulated on their splendid achievement in winning the Welsh Secondary School Championship Trophy for Life Saving.

HENRY A. OBERHOLZER.

#### **Provision of Meals.**

Dinners are now provided at six centres for necessitous children.

During the year ending December 31st, 1940, 138,505 meals were served.

The Medical Staff report children who appear to need food. The School Medical Officer approves of the menu and visits to the Centres at meal times are paid by the School Medical Staff.

In this connection the arrangements initiated by the Education Committee in October, 1934, for the provision of milk to school children, in consequence of the circular of the Board of Education No. 1437, were continued during 1940. The number of bottles of milk supplied during the year 1940, was 1,794,028, of which 1,385,531 were paid for by the children, while 408,497 were supplied free in necessitous cases. The School Medical Officers inspect the cases submitted to them by the teachers, when these are thought to be in need of free milk. During the year 742 were examined.

#### **Co-operation of Parents.**

Every encouragement is given to parents to be present at the examination of their children and they respond well.

At the routine inspections the percentage attendance was 91.6 in the case of the entrants, 83.3 for intermediates, and 53.2 for leavers, and for the combined groups, 75.1 per cent. These attendances are set out in the tabular form below.



	No. of Boys Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent. of Parents Present	No. of Girls Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent. of Parents Present	Total Boys and Girls Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent. of Parents Present
Entrants	526	476	90.4	494	459	92.9	1020	935	91.6
Second Age Group	659	521	79.0	631	554	87.7	1290	1075	83.3
Third Age Group	649	295	45.4	607	374	61.6	1256	669	53.2
	1834	1292	70.4	1732	1387	80.0	3566	2679	75.1

At the Clinic a parent attends in practically every case where there is any defect above the trivial.

#### **Co-operation of Teachers.**

The success of Medical Inspections depends to a very large extent on the help given by the teachers and this has again been wholehearted. Teachers assist us by arranging for the examinations at the Schools, issuing notices to parents through the children, referring children for examination at the school or Clinic, advising parents, reporting on defective children, and in fact in numerous other ways.

#### **Co-operation of School Attendance Officers.**

The Attendance Officers facilitate the School Medical work in many ways. They satisfy themselves that children of school age who are not attending school, have good reason for not doing so, and if the alleged reason is bad health, they require the production of Medical Certificates, most of which come from the Medical Department.

Attendance Officers help in compiling our list of exceptional children, and collect outstanding debts due to the School Clinic for treatment received.

#### **Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.**

Thanks must be given to the local branch of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and their Inspectors, for the help they continue to give. They have reported to us in respect of neglected, verminous, crippled and mentally defective children, and have followed up cases after treatment to see that it has been continued.

The Newport Home Nursing Association made 3,550 visits to the homes of school children, and gave treatment for numerous conditions, including Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Rheumatism, Ear Conditions, Wounds, Abscesses, etc.

The Education Committee distributed free boots and shoes to necessitous cases by means of their Children's Boot Fund. During the year ended 30th September, 1940, 1,145 pairs were distributed.

#### **Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.**

The methods of ascertainment have been described in previous reports.

These methods are adequate for the purpose of ascertainment. Treatment is largely a matter of obtaining accommodation in institutions. We have none and are dependent on those provided by other Authorities. There is not much difficulty in obtaining the use of these, except in the case of mentally defectives.

#### **Blind.**

One boy and one girl are at the Glamorgan Residential School for the Blind, Bridgend, one boy at Sunshine House School, Leamington, and one boy attending Worcester College for the Blind.

**Partially Blind.**

There are two boys and one girl at the Glamorgan Residential School for the Blind, Bridgend.

**Deaf, including Dumb.**

There are five of these cases in Special Schools: two boys and two girls at The Mount, Stoke-on-Trent; and one girl at the Royal Cambrian Institution for the Deaf, Swansea. There are three cases attending Elementary Schools.

**Mentally Defective.**

The number of certified Mentally Defective (feeble-minded) children belonging to the area amounted to 8. Of these, two girls are at Allerton Priory R.C. Special School, and one girl at Monyhull Colony.

One boy and one girl were notified during the year to the Local Authority for the Care of the Mentally Defective.

In addition in the course of the examination 81 children (38 boys and 43 girls) were tested and found to be dull and backward and not considered mentally defective.

There is 1 defective between the ages of 14 and 16 years not attending school.

**Epileptics.**

Epileptic children are divided into two classes. (1) Those, not being idiots or imbeciles, who are unfit by reason of severe epilepsy to attend the ordinary public elementary schools. For practical purposes children who suffer from major epileptic attacks in school are considered to be in this class and require other provision than the ordinary school.

There are at present two cases known which come within the meaning of this definition.

(2) This class consists of children suffering from less severe epilepsy. These are not unfit for school but may be so in the future. 10 are recorded, mainly on statements by parents as to having had one or more "fits." They are kept on record for "following up" purposes but the great majority do not develop into anything serious.

**Cripples.**

There is one cripple boy at Victoria Home and School, Bournemouth.

Eight cases are attending the Orthopaedic Clinic of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

**Secondary Schools.**

The schools dealt with under this heading are The High School, The Newport Secondary and the Junior and Full-time Technical. All are provided by the Local Education Authority.

On the advice of the Board of Education, the examinations of this class of scholar now takes place at the age of 11 (Entrants), at the age of 15, and on leaving, instead of annually as before. The inspections are generally carried out during the Autumn term.

Visits are made for following up purposes during the other terms. Home visits are made by the Nurses as required.

The total number of Routines examined was 776, Specials 1,105, and re-inspections 670.

Reference to Appendix B, Table III., shows the treatment received, the chief items being 239 for Defective Vision, 20 for Tonsils and Adenoids operations at the Clinic, and Table IV. 275 for Dental treatment.

At the Routine inspections the parents attended in 53.0 per cent. of the cases.



### Physical Training.

There are full-time Physical Training and Games Masters or Mistresses at The High School and at The Newport Secondary Boys' and Girls' Schools, and the Technical College day classes are taken by Mr. J. E. Tugwell.

### Parents' Payments.

As far as possible all payments are made at the Clinic at the time of treatment, or forms collected in cases where parents cannot afford to pay for treatment. Where this is not possible a list is submitted weekly to the School Attendance Department for collection by the Attendance Officers.

### Employment of Children and Young Persons.

Certificates under the provisions of the Byclaws were issued in respect of the following:—

	Boys.	Girls	Total.
Errands ...	97	—	97
Newspaper Delivery	49	2	51
Milk Delivery ...	6	—	6
Miscellaneous ...	16	—	16
	—	—	—
Total	168	2	170
	—	—	—

The Junior Instruction Centre for Boys closed during the year owing to the fall in the numbers of unemployed boys. Girls are still catered for in a Junior Instruction Class.

### Entertainments.

18 girls were medically examined as to their fitness to be employed in public entertainment, e.g., singing and dancing, and licences for these were granted by the Local Education Authority.

A number of children licensed by other Education Authorities performed at Newport. These were between the ages of 12 and 14. Such children are strictly supervised at their lodgings and places of amusement, to ensure that the conditions of their employment are adhered to. They attend the public schools during their stay.

### Street Trading.

No case was licensed under this heading during 1939.

### Miscellaneous.

24 Teachers and 12 Bursars were examined and reported on as to their fitness for their duties.

The following tables (Appendix A and B) give the statistics of the work done in the form required by the Board of Education. Appendix C gives the heights and weights of routine children examined during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**H. CATTO,**

School Medical Officer.

The School Clinic,  
26, Clytha Park Road,  
Newport, Mon.

February, 1941.

# APPENDIX—A.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

TABLE 1.

Medical Inspections of Children attending Public Elementary Schools.

A.—Routine Medical Inspection.

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups.

Age				Entrants				
				3	4	5	6	Other Ages
Boys	...	...	...	...	74	387	62	3
Girls	...	...	...	...	79	353	50	12
Totals	...	...	...	...	153	740	112	15
								Total
								526
								494
								1020

Age				Second Age Group			
				8	9	Other Ages.	Total
Boys	...	...	...	584	64	11	659
Girls	...	...	...	558	64	9	631
Totals	...	...	...	1142	128	20	1290

Age				Third Age Group				
				12	13	14	Other Ages	Total
Boys	...	...	...	580	63	6	...	649
Girls	...	...	...	513	91	3	...	607
Totals	...	...	...	1093	154	9	...	1256

				Number of other Routine Inspections	Total
Boys	...	...	...	...	...
Girls	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	...	...

				Grand Total				
				Entrants	Second Age Group	Third Age Group	Other Routine Inspections	Total
Boys	...	...	...	526	659	649	...	1834
Girls	...	...	...	494	631	607	...	1732
Totals	...	...	...	1020	1290	1256	...	3566

B.—Other Inspections.

				Number of Special Inspections	Number of Re-inspections
Boys	...	...	...	6787	7516
Girls	...	...	...	6496	6727
Totals	...	...	...	13283	14243

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year  
in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A.		B.		C.		D.	
		(Excellent.)		(Normal.)		(Slightly subnormal.)		(Bad.)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1020	79	7.74	741	72.64	193	18.92	7	.68
Second Age Group	1290	131	10.15	863	66.89	292	22.63	4	.31
Third Age Group	1256	275	21.89	804	64.01	177	14.09	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3566	485	13.60	2408	67.52	662	18.56	11	.30

TABLE III.

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1940.

## TREATMENT TABLE.

## Group 1.—Minor Ailments.

(excluding Uncleanliness for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect.				Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
				Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin :—						
Ringworm-Scalp—						
(i.) X-ray Treatment.	If none, indicate					
by dash	...	...	...	—	—	—
(ii.) Other treatment	...	...	...	1	1	2
Ringworm-Body	...	...	...	29	—	29
Scabies	...	...	...	171	5	176
Impetigo	...	...	...	415	25	440
Other Skin Disease	...	...	...	595	63	658
Minor Eye Defects :—	...	...	...	389	42	431
(External and other but excluding cases falling in Group II.)						
Minor Ear Defects.	...	...	...	527	45	572
Miscellaneous :—						
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	...	...	...	2240	168	2408
TOTAL :—				4367	349	4716

TABLE III—continued.  
Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects  
treated as Minor Ailments.—Group I.).

	Number of defects dealt with.			Number of Children for whom Spectacles were prescribed.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise.	Total.		Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total.
Errors of Refraction ... (including Squint)	971	2	973				
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—	(a) Prescribed	814	2	816
				(b) Obtained	615	2	617
Total ...	971	2	973				

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS				Total number treated.
Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total (3)		
663	2	665	32	697

TABLE IV.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups.

Age.	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total.
Number	28	403	381	385	478	436	431	315	303	294	63	4	3521

(b) Specials ... 285

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ... 3806

(2) Number found to require treatment ... 3631

(3) Number actually treated ... 2591

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... 6620

(5) Half days devoted to :

Inspection 10

Treatment ... 1009

Total 1019

(7) Extractions :

Permanent Teeth 1744

Temporary Teeth 5009

Total 6753

(8) Administrations of

general anaesthetics for extractions 767

(6) Fillings :

Permanent Teeth 329

Temporary Teeth 56

Total 385

(9) Other operations :

Permanent Teeth 183

Temporary Teeth 48

Total 231

TABLE V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	4
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	43009
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	668
(iv.) Number of children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act 1921	23
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	—

TABLE VI.—Blind and Deaf Children.

	1 At a Public Elementary School.	2 At an Institution other than a Special School.	3 At no School or Institution.	4 Total not receiving suitable education.
Blind Children	—	—	—	—
Deaf Children	3	—	—	3



# APPENDIX—B.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

TABLE I.

## A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Medical Inspection of Children attending Secondary Schools.

Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Grand Total
Boys ...	3	82	46	21	40	125	36	23	2	—	378
Girls ...	8	122	44	15	32	134	24	18	1	—	398
Totals ...	11	204	90	36	72	259	60	41	3	—	776

## B.—Other Inspections.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Number of Special Inspections	573	532	1105
Number of Re-Inspections ...	414	256	670

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A.		B.		C. (Slightly subnormal.)		D. (Bad.)	
		(Excellent.) No.	%	(Normal.) No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Third Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	776	178	22.93	509	65.59	89	11.46	—	—
TOTAL	776	178	22.93	509	65.59	89	11.46	—	—



TABLE III.  
Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1940.

TREATMENT TABLE.

Group I.—Minor Ailments.  
(excluding Uncleanliness for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect.  (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
Skin :—			
Ringworm-Scalp —			
(i.) X-ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash ... ..	—	—	—
(ii.) Other treatment ... ..	—	—	—
Ringworm-Body ... ..	2	—	2
Scabies ... ..	2	—	2
Impetigo ... ..	16	1	17
Other Skin Disease ... ..	42	6	48
Minor Eye Defects :—	43	5	48
(External and other but excluding cases falling in Group II.)			
Minor Ear Defects. ... ..	37	3	40
Miscellaneous :—			
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ... ..	189	21	210
TOTAL :—	331	36	367

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects  
treated as Minor Ailments.—Group I.).

	Number of defects dealt with.			Number of Children for whom Spectacles were prescribed.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise.	Total.		Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total.
Errors of Refraction ... (including Squint)	239	1	240				
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—	—	—	(a) Prescribed	218	1	219
				(b) Obtained	174	1	175
Total ...	239	1	240				

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS				Total number treated.
Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)	By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Total (3)		
20	—	20	2	22

TABLE IV.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups.

Age.	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Total.
Number	—	21	34	37	52	62	19	6	4	—	235

(b) Specials ... 70

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ... 305

(2) Number found to require treatment ... 300

(3) Number actually treated ... 275

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... 1061

(5) Half days devoted to :

Inspection ... —

Treatment ... —

Total —

(7) Extractions :

Permanent Teeth 325

Temporary Teeth 35

Total 360

(8) Administrations of

general anaesthetics for extractions 36

(6) Fillings :

Permanent Teeth 246

Temporary Teeth 19

Total 265

(9) Other operations :

Permanent Teeth 48

Temporary Teeth 4

Total 52

TABLE V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	5	—
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	—	—
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	...	...
(iv.) Number of children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act 1921	...	...
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	...	...

Heights and Weights of Routine Examined Children in 1940.

Boys—Heights in inches.

Age	Elementary.		Newport Secondary		High School.		Technical.	
	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.
4	74	41.3	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	387	42.7	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	62	45.3	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	3	45.9	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	584	49.0	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	64	50.9	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	9	53.2	...	...	3	53.9	...	...
11	2	53.3	36	56.0	46	55.4	...	...
12	580	55.9	30	56.5	16	56.7	...	...
13	63	58.1	5	56.9	4	60.1	12	58.2
14	6	61.4	3	61.1	8	62.4	29	61.1
15	...	...	45	64.8	57	65.1	23	64.0
16	...	...	10	65.6	21	66.9	5	64.6
17	...	...	4	66.7	18	67.1	1	66.1
18	...	...	1	67.1	1	68.5	...	...
19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Boys—Weights in lbs.

Age	Elementary		Newport Secondary.		High School.		Technical.	
	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.	No. Taken	Av.
4	74	38.9	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	387	41.8	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	62	46.6	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	3	51.2	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	584	55.6	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	64	60.2	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	9	67.7	...	...	3	71.5	...	...
11	2	73.7	36	78.7	46	76.3	...	...
12	580	79.4	30	79.6	16	85.5	...	...
13	63	89.1	5	80.5	4	110.2	12	89.3
14	6	102.0	3	98.1	8	107.1	29	99.4
15	...	...	45	117.7	57	122.5	23	117.2
16	...	...	10	127.8	21	130.2	5	127.6
17	...	...	4	143.0	18	135.0	1	121.0
18	...	...	1	160.6	1	148.5	...	...
19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...









